



4310-JB

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

**[LLCO-921000-L51100000-GA0000-LVEMC1300020; COC-75916]**

**Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment and Notice of Public Hearing for the Bowie Resources, LLC, Federal Coal Lease Application, COC-75916, CO**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability and Notice of Public Hearing.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Federal coal management regulations, the Bowie Resources, LLC, Federal Coal Lease-By-Application (LBA) Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and comment. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado State Office will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the EA, Fair Market Value (FMV), and Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) of the coal resources for Bowie Resources, LLC, serial number COC-75916.

**DATES:** The public hearing will be held on July 18, 2013 at 6 p.m. Written comments should be received no later than July 29, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearing will be held at the Paonia Town Hall, 214 Grand Avenue, Paonia, CO 81428. Written comments should be sent to Desty Dyer at BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, 2465 South Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO 81401 or delivered via email to [ddyer@blm.gov](mailto:ddyer@blm.gov) or fax to 970-240-5367. Copies of the EA and the unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available at the field office

address above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kurt M. Barton at 303-239-3714, [kbarton@blm.gov](mailto:kbarton@blm.gov); or Desty Dyer at 970-240-5302, [ddyer@blm.gov](mailto:ddyer@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The BLM received an LBA filed by Bowie Resources, LLC, on October 18, 2012. The coal resource to be offered has limited surface access and is limited to coal recoverable by underground mining methods. The Federal coal is located on lands outside established coal production regions and may supplement the reserves at the Bowie II Mine. The Federal coal resources are located in Delta County, Colorado.

Sixth Principal Meridian

T. 12 S., R. 91 W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.,

sec. 31, lots 11 to 26, inclusive;

sec. 32, lots 10 to 15, inclusive.

T. 12 S., R. 92 W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.,

sec. 36, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

T. 13 S., R. 91 W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.,

sec. 5, lots 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,

NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,  
N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,  
and NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

sec. 6, lots 1 to 4, inclusive.

T. 13 S., R. 92 W., 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.,

sec. 1, lots 5 to 8, inclusive.

These lands contain 1,789.20 acres, more or less.

The EA addresses the cultural, socioeconomic, environmental and cumulative impacts that would likely result from leasing these coal lands. Two alternatives are addressed in the EA:

Alternative 1: (Proposed Action) The tracts would be leased as requested in the application; and

Alternative 2: (No Action) The application would be rejected or denied. The underground Federal coal reserves would be bypassed.

Proprietary data marked as confidential may be submitted to the BLM in response to this solicitation of public comments. Data so marked shall be treated in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the confidentiality of such information. A copy of the comments submitted by the public on the EA, unsigned FONSI, FMV and MER, except those portions identified as proprietary by the author and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, will be available for public inspection at the BLM Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, CO 80215, during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) Monday through Friday.

Comments on the EA, FMV and MER should address, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. The quality and quantity of the coal resources;
2. The method of mining to be employed to obtain MER of the coal, including specifications of the seams to be mined, timing and rate of production, restriction to mining and the inclusion of the tracts in an existing mining operation;
3. The FMV appraisal including, but not limited to, the evaluation of the tract as an incremental unit of an existing mine, quality and quantity of the coal resource, selling price of the coal, mining and reclamation costs, net present value discount factors, depreciation and other tax accounting factors, value of the surface estate, the mining method or methods, and any comparable sales data on similar coal lands. The values given above may or may not change as a result of comments received from the public and changes in market conditions between now and when final economic evaluations are completed.

Written comments on the EA, MER and FMV should be sent to Desty Dyer at the above address or via email prior to close of business [date to be provided by the CO DSD].

Please note “Coal Lease By Application” in the subject line for all emails. Substantive comments, whether written or oral, will receive equal consideration prior to any lease offering. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at

any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The foregoing is published in the Federal Register pursuant to 43 CFR 3422 and 3425.

Helen M. Hankins,

BLM Colorado State Director.

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